



St Mary MacKillop School NEWSLETTER

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Wednesday, 8th February, 2023 (Term 1, Week 2)

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

FROM THE REC

SAFER INTERNET DAY – TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY



Yesterday was known as Safer Internet Day. It is a global event that brings together communities, families, schools and organisations from more than 180 countries to help create safer online spaces. This important campaign is celebrating its 20 year anniversary in 2023, so it's a good time to reflect on the past two decades, as well as look towards the future.

The world is more connected than ever before, making online safety awareness even more important.

That's why the our 2023 campaign is encouraging everyone to Connect. Reflect. Protect:

- **Connect safely and with purpose** – by keeping apps and devices secure and using social media in positive ways.
- **Reflect before we act** – by taking a moment to consider how what we do and say online may affect others.
- **Protect ourselves by taking action** – by telling family, friends or colleagues about eSafety and how we can help

Take a look at the statistics of children have been the target of hate speech online, the number of adults who have had a negative experience online in the past year and the teens have been contacted by a stranger online. Cybersafety is part of our curriculum here at

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY

Tue 14th R-9 Meet and Greet Evening
Wed 15th School Captain and House Captain speeches
Thu 16th Middle School Open Day
9.00-10.00am & 6.00-7.00pm
Tue 21st Shrove Tuesday / Pancakes (gold coin)
Wed 22nd Ash Wednesday
Ash Wednesday Mass, 11.45am – Star of the Sea Church, Wallaroo. ALL WELCOME

MARCH

Fri 10th PUPIL FREE DAY (OSHC available)
Mon 13th Public Holiday
Wed 15th Sports Day at Wallaroo Oval

Parish Weekend Mass Times

St. Francis of Assisi, Moonta:
Sunday 8.30am
Sacred Heart, Kadina:
Saturday 8.30am Sunday 10.00am
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wallaroo:
Saturday 6.00pm



In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge Nharangga Country and Australia's First Peoples as traditional custodians of this land. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

RAISING HEARTS AND MINDS

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

school and can be reinforced by families at home.

Following is a prayer appropriate for Safer Internet Day:

Dear God,

Thank you for the wonderful things that the internet brings.

We are thankful that each one of us is different and this creates our own unique identity.

Help us to be kind online and have the courage to speak out against unkindness if we ever need to.

Help us to work towards creating a truly inclusive internet, where everyone can be themselves but be safe whilst doing it.

Amen.

Francesca Tully

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

OUR MEET AND GREET EVENING

The aim of our Meet and Greet Evening is for parents to come into the school and have the opportunity to hear some information from the staff so that you can feel well-informed about whole of school and classroom procedures, routines and practices and why we do certain things the way that we do.

There will be input from myself and class teachers and then time to mingle (meet and greet) teachers and also other parents. Forming relationships with other parents is important too.

We have changed the structure slightly to include our Reception classes on the same night as other classes:

We want to do as much as possible to enable parents to attend, therefore children may come with you and they will have supervised play on the playground while you are in the meeting.

TUESDAY 14TH FEBRUARY

5.15-6.00pm	Parents of both Reception classes meet in the MPLA (move to classrooms following whole group presentation)
6.00-6.45pm	Parents of Year 1, 2/3 Wehr and 2/3 Norton meet in the MPLA (move to classrooms following whole group presentation)
6.45-7.30pm	3/4 and 4/5 classes meet in MPLA (then will move into classrooms) 6/7/8 meet in the Sacred Heart Centre

We look forward to meeting with you.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Students in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8 will have the opportunity to stand for leadership positions and will present their leadership speeches as follows:

WEDNESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

- School Captain: present speech to whole school at Assembly starting at 9.00am
- School Vice-Captain: present speech to whole school at Assembly starting at 9.00am
- House Captain: present speech at House meeting starting at 2.30pm

Students who wish to be considered but are absent for any reason on Wednesday must have their speech given or sent to their class teacher no later than 8.30am, Wednesday, 15th February. Their speech will be read on their behalf by a staff member at the Assembly or appropriate House meeting.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

All students are welcome to wear their House tops and sport uniform on Wednesday for the House meetings, to support their team.

Following the appointment of these student leaders, each class will elect two Class Representatives for Semester 1. We look forward to sharing the results with you.

BUSES

Thank you to Paul Northeast, Michael Dennis and Bernie Thomson who are our regular bus drivers and do a fantastic job delivering students safely to school and home again. I met with the bus students on the first day back of this term and we discussed the responsibility of the bus driver to keep everyone safe and get them to school and home on time. We discussed the student's big responsibility in helping the bus driver to do their job well. The students volunteered the ways they can assist the drivers with this:

- Wear your seatbelt
- Speak in an inside voice to the people seated near you
- No eating or drinking on the bus
- Respect for the school property of the buses
- Use our manners and speak politely and respectfully to each other and the bus drivers
- Bring a book to read if you would like to; no screens, pens, textas etc

The students thought of these guidelines and are asked to always observe them.

Our set bus routes are:

- Moonta and surrounds (Paul) – morning and afternoon
- Kadina (Michael) – afternoon only

Bernie is our relief bus driver and does do a bus run on some days as a pastoral care for families and to assist them in the short term.

From time-to-time we have families living in Wallaroo request the bus service but we are not currently in a position to be able to offer a regular Wallaroo bus run for students.

Our buses are used regularly to transport students for excursions, camps, and other local activities. We are very fortunate that people in our school community have worked so hard to be able to purchase and maintain these buses, and this service. We have now purchased a new larger bus (you may have seen it at the end of last year) which now has our school signage and this is the bus that Paul drives for the Moonta run. We are really excited that our new bus now looks like one of the St Mary MacKillop fleet.



STAFF FORMATION DAYS (FORMERLY KNOWN AS PUPIL FREE DAYS)

Following are the Staff Formation days that are set for 2023:

- Term 1 Week 6 Friday 10th March – OSHC open
- Term 2 Week 1 Monday 1st May - OSHC open
- Term 3 Week 1 Monday 24th July – OSHC open
- Term 3 Week 9 Friday 22nd September – OSHC closed
- Term 4 Week 9 Friday 15^h December – OSHC open

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

NAPLAN DATES FOR 2023

NAPLAN testing will be held in March this year, which is a change from previous years when it was held in May. Parents of students in Year 3, 5 and 7 will receive a pamphlet with NAPLAN information today. Teachers will prepare students in classes and we will also take part in the required national practice testing on Tuesday 28th February, starting at 11.00am.

The testing window in March is between 15-27 March.

If you or your child have any questions or concerns about the NAPLAN testing please contact your child's class teacher for a chat.

Parents who wish to withdraw their child from the testing are asked to make a time and have a discussion with me.

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPEN

We invite anyone in our school community and in our wider community to our

Middle School Open events coming up next week:

THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY

Drop into the Sacred Heart Centre.

Any time between 9.00-10.00am or in the evening any time between 6.00-7.00pm.

This is a perfect opportunity to come along and visit our Years 6-8 students and staff; enjoy a freshly brewed coffee and have a wander around and chat with staff and students.

All welcome, we hope to see you here!

Blessings for the week ahead,

Michelle Miller

PRINCIPAL

michelle.miller@stmm.catholic.edu.au

Library News

Student Borrowing

By now all students would have visited and borrowed from the library. Our school has a fabulous range of books and resources available to students and we encourage students borrow weekly. Please feel free to pop in and have a look around. I am always open to suggestions about books that interest the students and welcome any feedback or offers of assistance with book covering etc.

At St Mary Mackillop School we are strong supporters of the Premiers Reading Challenge and will be completing the challenge again this year. More news to follow in the coming weeks on this.

The school also has a collection of "Parent Help" Books from various authors which are available for parents / carers to borrow anytime. Parents / Carers may borrow the books under their child's name for a two week period. A small display is located in the Atrium near the office reception desk.

Scholastic Book Club

Please find included in this week's newsletter envelope, Issue 1 of the Scholastic Book Club Catalogue.

All orders are very much appreciated as they earn reward points for the school and enable us to purchase new books for the library. If you would like to make an order please return with payment to the front office of school by Friday, 17th February, or you can order online by following the instructions on the order form.

Sharon Steer

LIBRARY COORDINATOR

OSHC Pupil Free Day

Friday, 10th March, will be a Pupil Free Day. Outside School Hours Care will be available from 8.00am to 6.00pm. Light snacks are provided, children will need to bring packed recess and lunch. Child Care Benefits will be paid accordingly and the cost will be \$60.00 per child. Please return the reply slip by **Friday, 24th February**, if your child/ren will be attending.

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OSHC BOOKING FORM – PUPIL FREE DAY – FRIDAY, 10th MARCH

Return by **Friday, 24th February**

Family Name: _____

Signed: _____

Children requiring OSHC _____ Year _____

_____ Year _____

_____ Year _____

Bookings

Priority 1 – Children who are permanent Friday after school.

Priority 2 – Children of parents/carers who work this day.



NEWSLETTER INSERTS/ ATTACHMENTS

1. NAPLAN information brochure (if applicable)
2. Scholastic Book Club catalogue

If you have not received any of the above hand-outs, please write a note in your child's diary for a copy to be sent home.

Community News

The services and events contained in Community News are in no way connected with the school and are included in this newsletter for your information only. Parents and caregivers need to make their own enquiries and assessments about the suitability of these events and services for their needs and those of their children. Notices will be placed if time and space permits.

POSITIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Join us to learn more about the Positive Partnerships program and some of the tools and resources available to support school aged autistic students.

During the session you will learn about

- The diversity of autism
- The Planning Tool
- Strengthening the partnership between home and school

Kadina Football Club

Tuesday, 21st February

Session is 3:30pm-5pm (registrations from 3pm)

<https://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/workshop/?eventtemplate=151-community-session-sa&event=1123>



Why MyTime?

MyTime is for parents and carers of a child with a disability, chronic medical condition or other additional needs including developmental delay.

FIND US AT:

Kadina Uniting Church Hall
Thursdays 9:30 – 11:30am
6 sessions per school term
(dates on next page)

CONTACT:

Facilitator: Georgina Weissmann
Phone: 0466 427 633
Email: mytimekadina@gmail.com
Facebook: MyTime Copper Coast

Unwind and
share experiences
with others who
understand



Health
Women's and Children's
Health Network



mytime.net.au

MyTime term plan

mytime.net.au



DATES	GROUP ACTIVITY	CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY
2/2/2023	Welcome to Term 1 2023coffee and chat, welcome new members	
9/2/2023	Topic: Selfcare/prioritising ourselves	
23/2/2023	Macrame/ weaving session	
2/3/2023	Guest speaker: Fraser Ellis, Member forNarungga	Children's activities are planned according to the age and needs of children booked in with the Play Helper. Some activities include puzzles, vehicles, blocks, balls, drawing and other games.
16/3/2023	Paint your own trinket box/ rock painting	
23/3/2023	End of term celebration	



It's support
for you



It's free to
join



Professional
support



Pre-school aged
children are welcome